

Resources at Work in the Upper South Platte River Watershed

The Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) is a voluntary program offering landowners technical and financial support to protect, restore, and enhance wetlands on their property.

FY 2004 WRP Activities		
Type Approved	Approved Funding	Acres Treated
Perpetual	\$538,500	166
Total	\$538,500	166

The Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) is a voluntary program that encourages creation of high quality wildlife habitats that support wildlife populations of National, State, Tribal, and local significance. Through WHIP, NRCS provides technical and financial assistance to landowners and others to develop

upland, wetland, riparian, and aquatic habitat areas on their property.

F Y 2004 WHIP Activities
Number of Applications Received28
Number of Applications Contracted8
Dollar Amount Approved\$86,709
Acres Under Contract



The Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP) is a voluntary program that helps farmers and ranchers keep their land in agriculture. It provides matching funds to State, Tribal, or local governments and non-governmental organizations with existing farm land protection programs to purchase conservation easements or other interests in land.

F	Y 2004 FRF	P Activit	ies	
Entity	County	Type	Acres	Federal Share
Boulder County	Weld	Farm	25	\$124,960
Boulder County	Weld	Farm	74	\$500,000
Total			99	\$624,960

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) was reauthorized in the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Farm Bill) to provide a voluntary conservation program for farmers and ranchers that promotes agricultural production and environmental quality. EQIP provides financial and technical help to assist eligible participants install or implement structural and management conservation practices on eligible agricultural land. EQIP may cost share up to 75 percent of the costs of certain conservation practices.

FY 2004 EQIP Contract Funding in the Upper South Platte River Watershed				
Natural Resource Concerns	Applications Received	Applications Contracted	\$ Amount Approved	
Water Quality	108	85	\$1,666,629	
Grassland	50	29	\$505,366	
Soil Erosion	36	25	\$298,973	
Animal Waste	11	4	\$79,945	
Wildlife	35	19	\$253,202	
CNMP	4	4	\$2,000	
Total	244	166	\$2,806,115	

What is a Watershed? A watershed is the land that water flows across or under on its way to a stream, river, or lake. Everyone lives in a watershed. You and everyone in your watershed are part of the watershed community.

Colorado's Watershed Approach: Instead of the traditional statewide approach in addressing priority resource issues like soil erosion, water quality, grazing lands, wildlife, and animal waste, NRCS looks to Colorado's ten watershed work groups to identify local resource needs and priorities. These work groups meet annually to determine which natural resource concerns are most prevalent in their communities. In turn, NRCS focuses its resources on addressing those concerns. Colorado's local conservation districts provide leadership in this effort to foster increased decision making at the local level.

Upper South Platte River Watershed Colorado Counties Served





8,106,960 Acres

Land Use	Acres
Irrigated Cropland	522,862
Non-Irrigated Cropland	1,207,111
Rangeland	2,788,658
Irrigated Hay & Pasture	48,400
Non-Irrigated Hay & Pasture	222,606
Forest Land	572,400
Urban	446,621
Conservation Reserve Program	411,509
Other	255,454
Federal Lands	1,631,339



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The Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) is a voluntary program that helps landowners restore and protect grasslands, including rangeland and pastureland, while maintaining the areas as grazing lands. It emphasizes support for grazing operations, plant and animal biodiversity, and grassland under the greatest threat of conversion.

FY 2004 GRP Statewide Activity

Applications Received
Applications Contracted
Dollars Approved \$2,250,000
Acres Under Contract 9,066

arch 2005